BEST COPY AVAILABLE

(9)

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> UNCLAS 4N <<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

*** BEGIN MESSAGE 14 ***

SERIAL=BK2007150691 UDN=Z(24710)
CLASS=UNCLAS 4N
FBIS C63JUL20
UNCLAS 4N

Approved for Release
Date DEC 1996

SRV: FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE TO U.S. ON PHOTO OF MIA'S *
BK2007150691 HANOI VNA IN ENGLISH 1429 GMT 20 JUL 91
"FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NOTE ON PHOTO OF THREE AMERICAN PILOTS" -- *
VNA HEADLINE

TEXT HANOI VNA JULY 20 -- VIETNAM'S FOREIGN MINISTRY TODAY SENT A NOTE TO THE U.S. SIDE ON RECENT AMERICAN NEWS REPORTS ON A *
PICTURE OF THREE AMERICAN PILOTS REPORTEDLY MISSING IN ACTION IN THE *
INDOCHINA WAR, AND ON THE REMARK OF THE PERSON WHO SUPPLIED THAT PICTURE THAT THE THREE PILOTS MIGHT BE STILL ALIVE. THE NOTE READS:

1. VIETNAM EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN OVER THE NEWS ABOUT A PICTURE OF THREE AMERICANS, THE ORIGIN OF WHICH IS NOT YET KNOWN. *

2. VIETNAM DEEMS IT NECESSARY TO CALL THE UNITED STATES' ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

- ACCORDING TO THE RECORDS THE U.S. HANDED OVER TO VIETNAM, ALBRO LYNN LUNDY AND HARRY JAMES STEVENS WERE AMERICAN PILOTS SHOT DOWN IN *
LAOS RESPECTIVELY IN 1966 AND 1969 AND LISTED AS KILLED IN ACTION *
(KIA).

- JOHN LEIGHTSON ROBERTSON WAS THE PILOT WHO TOGETHER WITH HUBERT F. BUCHANAN FLEW AN F4C THAT WAS SHOT DOWN IN HAI HUNG PROVINCE (NORTH VIETNAM) ON 16 SEPTEMBER, 1966. BUCHANAN SURVIVED AND WAS CAPTURED, AND TURNED OVER TO THE U.S. SIDE AFTER THE PARIS AGREEMENT. J. ROBERTSON WAS LISTED BY THE U.S. AS ONE OF THE PRIORITY CASES AND WAS GIVEN ACTIVE COOPERATION IN THE INVESTIGATION BY VIETNAM. THE RESULTS OF THE 9TH JOINT U.S.-VIETNAM INVESTIGATION (16 FEBRUARY-6 MARCH 1990) SHOWED THAT ROBERTSON WAS BLOWN INTO PIECES WHILE HIS AIRCRAFT WAS FALLING DOWN. THE VIETNAMESE SPECIALISTS RECOVERED SOME PIECES OF HIS REMAINS FROM THE CRASH SITE AND HANDED THEM OVER TO THE U.S. SIDE ON APRIL 10, 1990. SO THE NEWS THAT ROBERTSON IS STILL ALIVE IS GROUNDLESS.

3. VIETNAM AFFIRMS THAT ALL U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR WERE TURNED OVER TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AFTER THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIETNAM. VIETNAM SHARES THE CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE EXPRESSED BY THE SPECIAL EMISSARY OF THE U.S. PRESIDENT, GENERAL JOHN W. VESSEY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE DEFENCE DEPARTMENT WHEN DEALING WITH THE INFORMATION REGARDING THAT PICTURE. VIETNAM IS PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH THE U.S. TO CLARIFY THE MATTER CONCERNING THE PICTURE. VIETNAM WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO TAKE MEASURES TO ASK THOSE WHO PRODUCED THE PICTURE TO COOPERATE WITH THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IN SOLVING THIS CASE. IF THEY REFUSE TO COOPERATE AND THE INVESTIGATION SHOWS THAT THE PICTURE WAS FABRICATED FOR MONEY MAKING PURPOSES, THEY MUST BE PUNISHED AND CONDEMNED FOR DELIBERATELY PROLONGING THE SUFFERINGS OF THE MIA FAMILIES. *

20 JUL 1530Z [redacted]
NNNN
NNN

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> UNCLAS 4N <<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<
<><><><><>